

For Your Information

Weekly

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

November 2, 2012

FROM CITY MANAGER STEVE MCKOWN

As you will find featured in the Clewiston News today, we have a lineman and two groundmen heading to Allentown, Pa to help with Hurricane Sandy electric restoration. They are traveling with crews from Kissimmee to help out Pennsylvania Power and Light. Other cities that are responding to various areas include Jacksonville, Leesburg, Ocala, Lakeland and Key West. We are proud that even though we are small, we can still contribute to helping others as we received help after Francis and Wilma.

Storms such as Hurricane Sandy are awful, catastrophic events that devastate both life and property. Yet, as you have always heard, behind every dark cloud, there is always a silver lining. It is the tough times in America that differentiate Americans from any other nationality. We are benevolent as a people, and nowhere in America is that any more true than here in Clewiston, Florida. We truly are America's Sweetest Town because our people really do care and do what they can to help. Please make sure that you thank our electrical workers upon their return.

Other Dates to Remember:

November 2, 2012	Lion's Club Sausage Sale-Sykes Park before homecoming game
November 6, 2012	Election Day – Don't forget to vote!
November 10, 2012	2 nd Annual Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Golf Tournament
November 13, 2012	Chamber Business Bash – Clewiston Inn at 5:00 pm
November 15, 2012	Commission Workshop
November 16, 2012	Florida City Gas – Check Presentation 2:00 at Woodwork's Park
November 19, 2012	Commission Meeting

Veteran's Day refuse collection schedule: The City will not be offering solid waste collection on Monday November 12, 2012. We will be collecting Monday's routes on Tuesday, November 13. Thursday's route will be regular scheduling.

Thanksgiving Day refuse collection schedule: The City will not be offering solid waste collection on Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving Day. We will be collecting on Friday, November 23, the day after Thanksgiving.

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Code Enforcement opened eight (8) new cases – one (1) for overgrowth, one (1) for property maintenance, one (1) for a dilapidated sign, one (1) for illegal parking and four (4) for not having a current Local Business Tax Receipt and closed two (2) cases.
- The home located at 733 East Concordia has had the siding removed and a stucco finish has been applied to the entire structure.

Golf Course Director Pena reports:

- The golf course is in very good condition. Staff has concentrated on reducing or eliminating post-emergent weeds and maintaining roughs in addition to regular maintenance.
- Tropical Storm Sandy early in the week kept many golfers away. Staff, in anticipation of potential heavy rains, sprayed wetting agents on the greens. Greens later were sprayed for insects and fertilized. Also as a result of the weather, our levels of water in our ponds and canals was lowered.
- With a break in the weather later in the week, including a hint of cooler weather, the roughs were not mowed giving us time to sharpen or replace mower reels and blades. Our mechanic had time to go through and service equipment as needed.
- The 2nd Annual *Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Golf Tournament* is scheduled for Saturday, November 10th. Registration cost is just \$75 per golfer or \$300 per team. All proceeds go to the Brian Haas Memorial Scholarship Fund. This includes lunch, golf and prizes. Signups are in the Pro Shop. See you there.
- The 1st Annual *Stan Wegscheid Memorial Golf Tournament* benefitting His Vision Our Hands Non-Profit Organization is scheduled for Saturday, December 1st at 9:00 a.m. Cost is \$50 per person which includes lunch. Contact Scott or Susan Wegscheid at (863)-673-4630.
- Membership renewals are on-going. Several of our winter residents came a little earlier than they expected due to the weather.
- Crooked Hook Campground has scheduled their 1st bi-weekly group outing for next Thursday.
- Thursday's Twilight Scrambles for the season will start up soon.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- We have plans in place for the Homecoming Parade this afternoon, albeit with a scaled back complement of officers compared to previous years.
- Our plans for Halloween night include reliance upon Auxiliary Officers, and a bike patrol team.
- Harry Spears and Debbie McNeil have spent the last couple of weeks reviewing and auditing our evidence and property. During the course of the audit, they are identifying funds within the liability account which may be eligible to be placed into the Forfeiture Account where they will be available for our use.
- The Explorers are planning a fundraiser dance to be held at John Boy Auditorium in November. More on that as the date approaches.

- Activity is high across the board. Our officers are working hard.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:

1205	Commercial / Residential Security Checks
562	Complaints Investigated
101	Traffic Citations Issued
50	Red Light Camera Violations
29	Criminal Arrests
73	Merchant Escorts Provided
9	Alarms Responded To
3	Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- The erosion control (sod) for the Francisco drainage project was installed on Monday. Silt screens and filter cloth were installed on Friday as a part of our water quality control BMPs. These are going to be the normal practice in the department and will be required at all construction sites inside the City limits. Contractors, please be sure to have an **“Erosion Control Plan”, (ECP)** as part of the packet you turn into the Community Development Department when you submit for a permit. All elements of the ECP are required to be in place before any work on site is done. Please call my office at 983-1471 if you have any questions about this requirement.
- Staff will have a section of the sidewalk out at the Boat Basin this week doing a repair. The ground has eroded under the ramp entering the “T Dock” on the west side in the basin. The Police Department dive team is scheduling a time to go into the water and replace some missing bolts.
- Staff started doing some trimming on the Olive Trees on Bond Street this week. We are getting ready to decorate for the upcoming season.
- Personnel are prepping the ground and planting some new Impatiens this week. The Garden Club has purchased some Periwinkles to plant in the pots on either side of the Chamber sign in Civic Park. Many thanks to the Garden Club for their help in beautifying our City.
- Our Facility Maintenance Division has been studying and learning to do more in the area of AC repairs. We now have the capabilities to find a leak, patch the area, pump down the system and refill with Freon. This will greatly reduce the number of calls for service.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- High School Soccer is HERE! The Clewiston Tigers Boys and Girls Soccer Season begin next week at Sugarland Sports Complex. The Lady Tigers play host to Sebring on Monday Nov. 5th at 6:00 & 7:30 p.m. and the Tigers open their home season on Thurs. Nov. 8th at 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. against The King's Academy. Make your plans to be there and support YOUR Clewiston Tigers!
- The maintenance and improvements to all the baseball and softball fields at Sugarland Sports Complex are progressing. Sod should be delivered next week, and will be set, rolled and top dressed in preparation of the spring sports season.
- CPAC (Clewiston Performing Arts Center) has added “Zen Yoga” to its activities offered to the citizens of Clewiston. Call 983-8399 for more information.

- A “Self Defense” class is being offered in the Beardsley Room behind the John Boy Auditorium from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Saturday evenings.
- “After School Tutoring” for elementary and middle school aged children began this week at the Youth Center from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Please contact Debbie Fouch at Golden Apple Learning Co. at (863) 673-3981 for more information.
- It is that time of the year as our winter residents and guests arrive back to town that the John Boy Auditorium, Beardsley Room, Youth Center and other venues become more popular during the holiday and winter season. If you are planning an event please contact the Youth Center at 983-1492 as early as possible to reserve a venue for your activity or event.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director McCarthy reports:

- We are glad to have Billy McDonald back on light duty after his shoulder surgery. Billy will be checking and changing the several thousand light bulbs that we have on Christmas decorations which is a tedious but necessary job.